

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-14 (canceled)

15. (currently amended) A multicast information broadcasting method extended from a local multicast information broadcast on an originating site to a roaming terminal user belonging to this originating site, to at least one separate site hosting this roaming terminal and linked to this originating site by the IP network, the local multicast information broadcast being generated by an information broadcasting source located at a first local multicast information broadcasting address in this originating site, ~~wherein the latter consists, after upon~~ interconnecting said roaming terminal to the IP network on this separate site, ~~in the method comprising:~~

a) transmitting, from the roaming terminal to the originating site, an extended multicast information broadcast request message, said request message containing at least said first local multicast information broadcasting address and an identification code of said roaming terminal; and, following the identification of said roaming terminal by said originating site,

b) transmitting, from the originating site to said roaming terminal, a message offering access to a global multicast information broadcast, said message offering access including at least one second global multicast information broadcasting address, the broadcasting source of which is identified in the originating site; and, following the receipt of said message offering access by said roaming terminal,

c) transmitting from the roaming terminal to the originating site, via the IP network, a message accepting the offer of access to the information being broadcast at said second global multicast information broadcasting address; and, after receipt of the message accepting the offer of access on said originating site,

d) transferring the information to be broadcast from the first to the second broadcasting address; and

e) transmitting, by global multicast broadcast, the information to be broadcast under the second address, which enables said roaming terminal interconnected to the separate site to receive, on the separate site, the information being broadcast under the first local broadcasting address, broadcast under the second global broadcasting address.

16. (previously presented)      The method as claimed in claim 15, wherein the steps a), b) and c) for transmission between the roaming terminal and the originating site, of the extended multicast broadcast request message, of the message offering access to a global multicast broadcast, or of the message accepting the offer of access are executed in point-to-point mode.

17. (previously presented)      The method as claimed in claim 15, wherein the step e) for global multicast transmission is performed in point-multipoint mode.

18. (currently amended)      The method as claimed in claim 15, wherein, for an originating site including a broadcast server connected to the IP network via a router, the step of ~~consisting in~~ transferring the information to be broadcast from the first to the second broadcasting address ~~includes~~ further comprises:

- a step for local multicast broadcasting of the information to be broadcast from the broadcast server to said router;

- a step for redirecting the information to be broadcast by substituting the second global multicast broadcasting address for the first local broadcasting address.

19. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 15, wherein, for a plurality of extended multicast broadcast request messages relating to one and the same first local multicast broadcasting address emanating from a plurality of roaming terminals belonging to said originating site and each interconnected to the IP network on a separate site, said step e), ~~consisting in~~ of transmitting, by global multicast broadcast, the information to be broadcast under the second address ~~consists in~~ creating a global multicast broadcast tree, the root element of which ~~consists of~~ being one of the routers common to the broadcast branches making up this global multicast broadcast tree.

20. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 15, wherein, said second address being maintained and validated for a local multicast information broadcast to said first address, said step d) ~~consisting in~~ transferring the information to be broadcast from the first to the second broadcasting address is deleted for any extended multicast broadcast request message to this second address following the first extended multicast broadcast request message to said second address.

21. (currently amended) A multicast information broadcasting system extended, from a local multicast broadcast on an originating site to a roaming workstation user belonging to this originating site, to at least one separate site hosting this roaming terminal and linked to this originating site by the IP network, the local multicast information broadcast being generated by an information broadcasting source located at a first local multicast broadcasting address in this originating site, ~~wherein said system includes at least,~~ at said originating site comprising:

- a means of receiving an extended multicast information broadcast request message, sent by said roaming terminal from said separate site, said request message containing at least said first local multicast information broadcasting address and an identification code of said roaming terminal, said reception means being used for the identification of said roaming terminal by the originating site;

- a means of transmitting, from the originating site to the roaming terminal, a message offering access to a global multicast information broadcast, said message offering access including at least one second global multicast information broadcasting address, the broadcasting source of which is identified in the originating site;

- a means of receiving a message accepting the offer of access to the information being broadcast at said second global multicast information broadcasting address, sent by said roaming terminal;

- a means of transferring the information to be broadcast from the first to the second broadcasting address;

- a means of transmission, by global multicast information broadcast, of the information to be broadcast under the second address.

22. (previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 21, wherein said means of receiving an extended multicast broadcast request message, of transmitting, from the originating site to the roaming terminal, a message offering access to a global multicast broadcast, of receiving a message accepting the offer of access to the information being broadcast at said second global multicast broadcasting address, of transferring the information to be broadcast from the first to the second broadcasting address, of transmitting, by global multicast broadcast, the information to be broadcast under the second address, are formed by software modules.

23. (previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 22, wherein said software modules are located on a dedicated machine interconnected by IP local area network on the originating site.

24. (previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 22, wherein, said originating site including a broadcast server connected to the IP network via a router, said software modules are located in said router.

25. (currently amended) A roaming terminal equipped to implement the multicast information broadcasting method extended, from a local multicast information broadcast on an originating site, to which this roaming terminal belongs, to at least one separate site hosting this roaming terminal and linked to this originating site by the IP network, the local multicast information broadcast being generated by an information broadcasting source located at a first local multicast information broadcasting address in this originating site, ~~wherein said roaming terminal includes at least,~~ stored in the mass memory of the latter comprising:

- a software module for creating and transmitting an extended multicast information broadcast request message, this request message containing at least one first local multicast information broadcasting address and an identification code of this roaming terminal;

- a software module for receiving and reading a message offering access to a global multicast information broadcast, this message offering access including at least one second global multicast information broadcasting address, the broadcasting source of which is identified in the originating site;

- a software module for creating and transmitting to the originating site, via the IP network, a message accepting the offer of access to the information being broadcast at said second global multicast information broadcasting address.



26. (currently amended) The computer readable recording medium according to claim 32, A software product for the implementation, by a roaming terminal type computer, of the multicast information broadcasting method extended, from a local multicast broadcast on an originating site, to at least one separate site hosting this roaming terminal and linked to this originating site by the IP network, the local multicast information broadcast being generated by an information broadcasting source located at a first multicast information broadcasting address in this originating site, as claimed in claim 15, wherein it includes, for invoking when executed on said roaming terminal further comprising:

- ~~a software module for~~ creating and transmitting an extended IP multicast information broadcast request message, this request message containing at least a first local multicast information broadcasting address and an identification code of this roaming terminal;

- ~~a software module for~~ receiving and reading a message offering access to a global multicast information broadcast, this message offering access including at least one second global multicast information broadcasting address, the broadcasting source of which is identified in the originating site;

- ~~a software module for~~ creating and transmitting to the originating site, via the IP network, a message accepting the offer of access to the information being broadcast at said second global multicast information broadcasting address.

27. (currently amended) The computer readable recording medium according to claim 32, A software product for the implementation, by a computer, of the multicast information broadcasting method extended, from a local multicast broadcast on an originating site, to at least one separate site hosting this roaming terminal and linked to this originating site by the IP network, from an information broadcasting source located at a first local multicast information broadcasting address in this originating site, as claimed in claim 15, wherein it includes, for invoking when executed on said originating site further comprising:

- ~~a software module for~~ receiving an extended IP multicast information broadcast request message sent by the roaming terminal from the separate site, this request message including at least the first local multicast information broadcasting address and an identification code of said roaming terminal, said receiving software module being used for the identification on the separate site of said roaming terminal by the originating site;

- ~~a software module for~~ transmitting from the originating site, to the roaming terminal, a message offering access to a global multicast information broadcast, said message offering access including at least one second global multicast information broadcasting address, the broadcasting source of which is identified in the originating site;

- ~~a software module for~~ receiving a message accepting the offer of access to the information being broadcast at said second global multicast information broadcasting address, sent by said roaming terminal;

- ~~a software module for~~ transferring the information to be broadcast from the first to the second broadcasting address;

- ~~a software module for~~ transmitting by global multicast information broadcast, the information to be broadcast under said second address.

28. (currently amended) The computer readable recording medium according to ~~The software product as claimed in~~ claim 27, wherein, for an originating site including a router, said software modules are stored in a mass memory of said router.

29. (currently amended) A computer readable recording medium with a data structure stored thereon, the data structure comprising:

~~representative of~~ an extended multicast information broadcast request message, exchanged in the context of a multicast information broadcasting method extended, from a local multicast broadcast on an originating site to a roaming terminal user belonging to this originating site, to at least one separate site hosting this roaming terminal and linked to this originating site by the IP network, the local multicast information broadcast being generated by an information broadcasting source located at a first local multicast information broadcasting address in this originating site,

wherein said extended multicast information broadcast request message is transmitted from the roaming terminal to the originating site

and in that said data structure includes at least:

- a header field containing an extended multicast information broadcast request message identification code;
- a field containing the first local multicast information broadcasting address;
- a field containing an identification code of the roaming terminal.

30. (currently amended) A computer readable storage medium with a data structure stored thereon, the data structure comprising:

~~representative of~~ a message offering access to a global multicast information broadcast, exchanged in the context of a multicast information broadcasting method extended, from a local multicast broadcast on an originating site to a roaming terminal user belonging to this originating site, to at least one separate site hosting this roaming terminal and linked to this originating site by the IP network, the local multicast information broadcast being generated by an information broadcasting source located at a first local multicast information broadcasting address in this originating site,

wherein said message offering access to a global multicast information broadcast is transmitted from the originating site to said roaming terminal,

and in that said data structure includes at least:

- a header field containing an access offer message identification code;
- a field containing a second global multicast information broadcasting address, under which should be broadcast the information being broadcast under the first local broadcasting address.

31. (currently amended) A computer readable storage medium with a data structure thereon, the data structure comprising ~~representative of~~

a message accepting the offer of access to a global multicast information broadcast, exchanged in the context of a multicast information broadcasting method extended, from a local multicast broadcast on an originating site to a roaming terminal user belonging to this originating site, to at least one separate site hosting this roaming terminal and linked to this originating site by the IP network, the local multicast information broadcast being generated by an information broadcasting source located at a first local multicast information broadcasting address in this originating site,

wherein said message accepting the offer of access to a global multicast information broadcast is transmitted from the roaming terminal to said originating site,

and in that said data structure includes:

- a header field containing an access offer acceptance message identification code;
- a field containing a second global multicast information broadcasting address, under which should be broadcast the information being broadcast under the first local broadcasting address.

32. (new) A computer readable recording medium encoded with a computer program thereon that when executed performs as broadcasting method extended from a local multicast information broadcast on an originating site to a roaming terminal user belonging to this originating site, to at least one separate site hosting this roaming terminal and linked to this originating site by the IP network, the local multicast information broadcast being generated by an information broadcasting source located at a first local multicast information broadcasting address in this originating site, upon interconnecting said roaming terminal to the IP network on this separate site, the method comprising:

a) transmitting, from the roaming terminal to the originating site, an extended multicast information broadcast request message, said request message containing at least said first local multicast information broadcasting address and an identification code of said roaming terminal; and, following the identification of said roaming terminal by said originating site,

b) transmitting, from the originating site to said roaming terminal, a message offering access to a global multicast information broadcast, said message offering access including at least one second global multicast information broadcasting address, the broadcasting source of which is identified in the originating site; and, following the receipt of said message offering access by said roaming terminal,

c) transmitting from the roaming terminal to the originating site, via the IP network, a message accepting the offer of access to the information being broadcast at said second global multicast information broadcasting address; and, after receipt of the message accepting the offer of access on said originating site,

d) transferring the information to be broadcast from the first to the second broadcasting address; and

e) transmitting, by global multicast broadcast, the information to be broadcast under the second address, which enables said roaming terminal interconnected to the separate site to receive, on the separate site, the information being broadcast under the first local broadcasting address, broadcast under the second global broadcasting address.